

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/715,289

Applicant(s)

GROOTERS ET AL

Examiner

Paul H. Kang

Art Unit

2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed January 5, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 49-78.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

In interpreting the claims, in light of the specification and the applicant's arguments, the Examiner finds the claimed invention to be patentably distinct from the prior art of record. The present application is a continuation of US Patent Application No. 09/021,568, filed February 10, 1998 and abandoned December 15, 2003 in response to a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

2. Gittins et al., US Pat. No. 5,961,651 and Takagi et al., US Pat. No. 5,768,614 combined teach the invention substantially as claimed. Gittins discloses an automatic information handling and notification system comprising:

a memory containing a program of instructions (see Fig. 1, memory 23) including:

two or more message source modules for detecting and monitoring an event occurring in at least two of a first application, a second application and a device and generating a message containing selected information about the event (multiple message sources 44, see fig. 3 and col. 4, line 48 – col. 5, line 42);

a message interceptor module for intercepting the message (Notify module 40 intercepts the message, see fig. 3 and col. 4, line 48 – col. 5, line 42); and

a message categorizing engine module (or message dispatch engine) for receiving the message from the message interceptor module and providing a notification of the event and accepting an action by the user (Notify module 40 generates a message for the user, see fig. 3 and col. 4, line 48 – col. 5, line 42 and col. 2, lines 41-52),

a processor for running said program of instructions (see col. 3, line 58 – col. 4, line 16).

Takagi discloses *a user interface for communicating the notification of the event to the user wherein the message is communicated via a single integrated user interface* (Takagi, col. 1, line 7 – col. 2, line 36). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated a user interface of Takagi into the notification system of Gittens in order to efficiently display multiple messages to the user.

However, the prior art fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination a message dispatch engine for filtering, queuing, and dispatching the at least one message, and further a system and method wherein the information handling system is capable of integrating multiple information and entertainment media.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

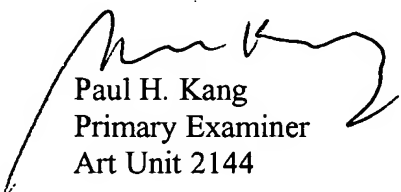
Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul H. Kang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3882. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 hour flex. First Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Paul H. Kang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2144